

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10

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USIA-06 SAJ-01 /118 W

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TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD - ENMOD EXPERTS MEETING, AUGUST 5, 1975

REF: GENEVA 6139

SUMMARY: ENMOD EXPERTS MEETING CONTINUED WITH PRESENTATIONS BY NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN, FRG, GDR AND CANADA AND SESSION CONCLUDED WITH EXCHANGE OF QUESTIONS AMONG EXPERTS. NEXT MEETING SET FOR AUGUST 7. DEPT'S ASSISTANCE REQUESTED RE RESPONSE TO QUESTION REPORTED PARA 7 END SUMMARY.

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1. SECOND SESSION OPENED WITH STATEMENT BY

VAN DER KLAUW (NETHERLANDS) IN WHICH HE THANKED SOVIET UNION FOR MAKING ENMOD A MULTILATERAL CONSIDERATION, AND SUPPORTED SWEDISH DIVISION OF PROBLEM INTO THREE CATEGORIES (PARA 2, REFTEL). HE STATED THAT A CERTAIN OVERLAP WITH LAWS OF WAR CONVENTION WAS INEVITABLE, AND MADE BOW TO SIDESPREAD, LONG-TERM AND SEVERE DAMAGE FORMULATION USED IN THAT FORUM. HOWEVER, LAWS OF WAR CONSIDERATION DO NOT INCLUDE NEW FORMS OF WARFARE SUCH AS RAIN-MAKING. STEERING HURRICANES COULD FALL UNDER BAN ON INDISCRIMINATE WEAPONS, BUT THAT SITUATION WAS UNCLEAR. THUS IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE A BAN ON SHORT-LIVED ACTIVITIES FOR MILITARY PURPOSES, AS OPPOSED TO CONVENTIONAL ACTIVITIES WITH LONG-TERM INFLUENCES ON THE ENVIRONMENT. IN SOME SITUATIONS IN WHICH OTHER WEAPONS WERE NOT USED, HOSTILE INTENT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO PROVE: THEREFORE AN EFFECTIVE COMPLAINT PROCEDURE IS ESSENTIAL IN ANY ENMOD CONVENTION. IN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE HARMFUL EFFECT OF PEACEFUL USES, VAN DER KLAUW REFERRED CRITICALLY TO RIVER DIVERSION (READ SOVIET) SCHEMES.

2. DUTCH EXPERT SCHUURMANS ADVOCATED WEATHER WARFARE BAN BEFORE EXISTING TECHNIQUES ARE FURTHER ELABORATED. HE ALSO NOTED THAT SOVIET EXPERTS CONCLUSION THAT PERMANENT CHANGE IN RADIATION BALANCE WHICH COULD RESULT FROM REPEATED CLOUD DISPERSION WOULD FOLLOW ONLY IF GROUND COVER WERE ALTERED. HE ALSO STATED THAT STATEMENTS REGARDING DISTANCE AT WHICH INFLUENCE OF WEATHER MODIFICATION COULD BE FELT WERE MEANINGLESS (SOVIETS HAD SAID US EXPERIMENTS PRODUCED RESULTS OUT TO 90 MILES) UNLESS MEASURE OF SIGNIFICANCE AND EXTENT OF SUCH INFLUENCE WERE INCLUDED.

3. BRIEF STATEMENT OF SWEDISH EXPERT TAMMELIN TENDED TO MIX ANCILLARY EFFECTS OF CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON ENVIRONMENT TOGETHER WITH USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL FORCES, WHEREAS PREVIOUS SPEAKERS HAVE TENDED TO MAINTAIN THE DESTRUCTION. HE CAST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DOUBT ON POSSIBILITIES OF PURPOSEFUL OZONE LAYER MODIFICATION AND SAID HE VIEWED CURRENT SESSION AS ONLY FIRST OF SERIES OF TECHNICAL MEETINGS AIMED AT DEFINING PROBLEM.

4. FRG EXPERT MULLER'S PRESENTATION CONSISTED MAINLY OF ATTACH ON CONCEPT OF EXCLUSIVE LIST OF PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES EMBODIED IN ORIGINAL SOVIET DRAFT AND OF

PLEA FOR ILLUSTRATIVE DESCRIPTION ONLY. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT ENMOD CONVENTION NOT INHIBIT PEACEFUL USES.

5. GDR EXPERT SCHNEIDER CONFINED COMMENTS TO SEISMIC BEHAVIOR OF EARTH'S CRUST. HE AGREED WITH OPINION OF OTHERS THAT SEISMOLOGY STILL FAR FROM BEING ABLE TO PREDICT EARTHQUAKES AND THAT TECHNOLOGY FOR SELECTIVELY RELEASING SEISMIC ENERGY WAS NOT YET PRACTICAL. HOWEVER, HE STATED IT COULD BE POSSIBLE TO PRODUCE EARTHQUAKES FROM (1) LAVA EXPLOSIONS, (2) INJECTION OF LIQUIDS INTO FAULTS AND (3) NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS. HE REQUESTED MORE INFORMATION IN THE LATTER TWO AREAS.

6. CANADA PRESENTED DETAILED WORKING PAPER AT AUGUST 5 CCD PLENARY (SEE SEPTEL). PAPER IDENTIFIES VARIOUS WAYS OF INFLUENCING ENVIRONMENT AND MAKES PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF THEIR MILITARY POTENTIAL AND FEASIBILITY. NOTES IDENTIFYING DUAL MILITARY/ CIVILIAN PURPOSE TECHNIQUES AS WELL AS SINGLE PURPOSE TECHNIQUES ARE INCLUDED. OVERALL CATALOG PROVIDED DIVIDED INTO THREE CATEGORIES: ATMOSPHERE, INCLUDING HIGH ATMOSPHERE AND IONOSPHERE, OCEANS AND LAND MASSES AND THEIR WATER SYSTEMS. SUBSEQUENT PRESENTATION AT EXPERTS' MEETING BY CANADIAN DEFENSE SCIENCE ADVISER EATON DREW ATTENTION TO MAJOR ASPECTS OF WORKING PAPER, STRESSED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATION CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED ONLY WHERE ELEMENTS ARE UNSTABLE, AND CONCLUDED WITH THOUGHT THAT ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION IS NOT AN ATTRACTIVE WEAPON AT THIS TIME. MEETING CONCLUDED WITH EXCHANGE OF QUESTIONS AMONG EXPERTS.

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7. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE (WITH HELP OF ERDA) ON PAST BRIEF US PUBLIC STATEMENTS REGARDING LIKELIHOOD AND MAGNITUDE OF EARTHQUAKES FOLLOWING UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, E.G. CANNIKIN AND REGARDING STIMULATION OF EARTHQUAKES BY INJECTING FLUIDS INTO FAULT ZONES. DALE

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